



August 18, 2004

Reply to Attn of:

Office of the General Counsel

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Blanket Determination Regarding Attendance at the Space Flight Awareness (SFA) Honoree Event

On August 23-25, the SFA Honoree Event will be held at Disney World Coronado Springs Resort in Celebration, FL. The events will recognize full-time NASA and contractor employees for their dedication to quality work, flight safety and mission success that has contributed significantly to the Shuttle or Station Programs and/or the Return to Flight Program goals. It has been determined to be in the best interest of the Government for those NASA employees who are invited to this event to attend in their official capacities and as representatives of NASA.

The event will be widely attended by approximately 750 persons approximately 300 of whom are honorees. Senior NASA and contractor management officials, members of Congress and their staffers, other Government officials, and state and local governments, will attend the event. An informal get acquainted social with the astronauts will be held on August 23; a briefing on Return to Flight efforts and an introduction to the 3D Space Station IMAX film will be held August 24; and the awards reception and dinner will be held August 25. The total estimated cost of food and beverage for the receptions and dinner is \$130 per person. The SFA Honoree event is part of NASA's ongoing motivation program that recognizes, through the SFA Program, outstanding employees from both Government and industry who have performed exemplary work in support of our Nation's space program. I find that these events meet the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR § 2635.204(g). Consequently, I conclude that NASA's interest in its employees attending this event outweighs any concern that free attendance may, or may appear to, improperly influence any NASA personnel in the performance of their official duties.

Accordingly NASA invitees and their spouses or guests may attend the event without charge.



R. Andrew Falcon